

WELLESLEY TOWN HALL  
525 Washington Street  
Wellesley  
Norfolk County  
Massachusetts

HABS NO. MA-1230

HABS  
MASS,  
11-WEL,  
7-

PHOTOGRAPHS AND  
WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

Historic American Buildings Survey  
National Park Service  
Department of the Interior  
Washington, D.C. 20013-7127

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ARCHITECTURAL DATA FORM

STATE Massachusetts	COUNTY Norfolk	TOWN OR VICINITY Wellesley
HISTORIC NAME OF STRUCTURE (INCLUDE SOURCE FOR NAME) WELLESLEY TOWN HALL		HABS NO. MA-1230
SECONDARY OR COMMON NAMES OF STRUCTURE		
COMPLETE ADDRESS (DESCRIBE LOCATION FOR RURAL SITES) 525 Washington Street		
DATE OF CONSTRUCTION (INCLUDE SOURCE) 1881-1886	ARCHITECT(S) (INCLUDE SOURCE) George W. Shaw & Henry Hunnewell	
SIGNIFICANCE (ARCHITECTURAL AND HISTORICAL, INCLUDE ORIGINAL USE OF STRUCTURE) Architectural, political & cultural focal point for the town. A structure rich in detail & architectural integrity. The land & building were donated to the town by Horatio H. Hunnewell, a wealthy banker, railroad tycoon & Boston entrepreneur to aid in the development of the town. Also due to the honor bestowed on his wife, Isabella Welles, family*		
STYLE (IF APPROPRIATE) Romesque		
MATERIAL OF CONSTRUCTION (INCLUDE STRUCTURAL SYSTEMS) granite rubble and red sandstone		
SHAPE AND DIMENSIONS OF STRUCTURE (SKETCHED FLOOR PLANS ON SEPARATE PAGES ARE ACCEPTABLE) rectangular in plan with attached towers, bays and other irregular projections. 3 stories, erected in 2 parts		
EXTERIOR FEATURES OF NOTE parapeted front entry pavillion or 3 stories with clock, similar pavillions with paladian windows at side elevations, 3 story towers with conical roofs, ornately carved stonework, high battered basement, steeply pitched multi-gabled slate roof, ionic columned portico.		
INTERIOR FEATURES OF NOTE (DESCRIBE FLOOR PLANS, IF NOT SKETCHED)		
MAJOR ALTERATIONS AND ADDITIONS WITH DATES		
PRESENT CONDITION AND USE Good condition; used as town hall & library		
OTHER INFORMATION AS APPROPRIATE *for naming the town Wellesley. The Architects, Shaw & Hunnewell were well known for their work in Boston's Back Bay area. The part section (1881) housed the library and the second (1883) the town hall (visually connected on the exterior).		
SOURCES OF INFORMATION (INCLUDING LISTING ON NATIONAL REGISTER, STATE REGISTERS, ETC.) National Register nomination, prepared by Christine Boulding & Adrienne Singer, Massachusetts Historical Commission, March 1976.		
COMPILER, AFFILIATION C. Lavoie, historian, HABS/HAER		DATE February 1989

ADDENDUM TO  
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HABS MA-1230  
*MASS,11-WEL,7-*

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National Park Service  
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1849 C Street NW  
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